

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 NEA-10 L-03 H-02 /084 W

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R 171714Z JUN 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9071

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICFTU, ILO

SUBJECT: ICFTU LEADER DISCUSSES AFL-CIO WALKOUT

1. ACCORDING TO ICFTU ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY VANDERVECKEN, THE AFL-CIO WALKOUT AT THE ILO CONFERENCE LAST WEEK WAS A TEMPORARY MEASURE. HE SAID THAT SOURCES CLOSE TO US WORKER DELEGATE IRVING BROWN HAVE REPORTED THAT BROWN WILL ATTEND THE ILO GOVERNING BODY (GB) MEETING FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE LATER THIS MONTH. HE ADDED THAT BROWN'S FAILURE TO ATTEND THE GB MEETING WOULD INEVITABLY RESULT IN A COMMUNIST DRIVE TO CAPTURE THE VACANT SEAT.

2. VANDERVECKEN'S REMARKS FOLLOWED A JUNE 16 MEETING WITH EIGHT VISITING AMERICAN TRADE UNIONISTS AT ICFTU HEAD-QUARTERS AT WHICH HE AND GENERAL SECRETARY KERSTEN DEFENDED THE ICFTU ROLE AT THE ILO LABOR CONFERENCE. THE ICFTU LEADERS TOLD THE AMERICANS THAT THE ELECTIONS TO THE ILO GOVERNING BOARD, WHICH RESULTED IN A RESOUNDING VICTORY FOR THE ICFTU AND THE DEMOCRATIC WORKERS GROUP, OVERSHADOWED THE REVERSAL ON THE PLO OBSERVER STATUS ISSUE WHICH PRECIPITATED THE AFL-CIO WALKOUT. THEY

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SAID THAT THE ELECTION OF THE ISRAELI LEADER, BEN

ISRAEL, TO THE GB WAS AN IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT,
ATTRIBUTABLE IN LARGE PART TO ICFTU INSISTENCE THAT
TH ELECTIONS AND THE PLO ISSUE BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY.

3. SINCE THE AFL-CIO ACTION AT GENEVA IS COMMANDING
MUCH ATTENTION AMONG THE BRUSSELS-BASED INTERNATIONAL
TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS, THE MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE
BEING LISTED AS AN INFO ADDRESSEE ON ANY PERTINENT
REPORTS. GREENWALD

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